

There are two ways in which our industrial base is jeopardized. The first is the attempt to gut a program designed to allow the private industry and the defense industry to work together on high-technology projects. Certain defense requirements in the future will depend on innovative approaches, and by allowing the commercial sector to create dual use technologies that serve both defense and private industry needs we create a stronger defense.

The value of the Technology Reinvestment Program can be demonstrated by the joint venture ongoing at McClellan Air Force Base in my district with the U.S. auto industry to develop metal casting processes that will meet the Clean Air Act standards. Locally, the joint venture has the potential to create as many as 180 jobs over 5 years, most of which will be high-paying jobs for metallurgists, chemical engineers, industrial engineers, chemists, and foundry workers.

Add to this the proposal in the bill to take away money needed for environmental clean-up activities at military installations. The cost to clean up McClellan Air Force Base, for example, could be as high as \$10 billion. The long-term military value of bases like McClellan is diminished if cleanup is not addressed. Even worse these costs could be passed along to local communities through the base closure process to avoid the liability. The lack of cleanup would prevent any reuse of the facility, and the combined economic impact of job loss and no defense conversion would devastate the local economy.

These spending cuts are shortsighted. If we care about long-term defense readiness this is not the way to go. I consider both technology development and defense cleanup to be high priorities which we can not afford to sacrifice when other options exist.

TRIBUTE TO MCCARTER & ENGLISH

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 23, 1995

Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I have the honor of acknowledging the law firm of McCarter & English during its sesquicentennial celebration. Originally founded in 1845, and headquartered in my congressional district in the city of Newark since 1865, McCarter & English has the unique distinction as the State of New Jersey's oldest and largest law firm. McCarter & English has a distinguished past that is synonymous with the legal and business activities of the State. A majority of the attorneys with the firm have played a role in the civic life of the State or have been appointed to State and Federal benches.

McCarter & English has had several famous clients including Annie Oakley and the great inventor, Thomas A. Edison. I am pleased that I was able, with the help of my colleagues, to secure an appropriation from Congress to preserve the endangered Thomas Edison Historic Site in West Orange, NJ, which houses important papers and artifacts.

McCarter & English has always supported charitable, educational, cultural, and civic organizations including area hospitals, universities, and theaters. Many of the firm's partners have taught at area law schools and pro-

vided pro-bono services for many of my constituents.

In closing, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating McCarter & English on its 150th anniversary. The firm has never wavered in its commitment to the city of Newark, despite the difficult challenges the city has experienced in the last 25 years. McCarter & English has played an important role in the revitalization of downtown Newark. The firm has made donations to the new arts center in Newark as well as several other projects. I wish McCarter & English continued success and prosperity for another 150 years to come.

IN HONOR OF THE DOMINICAN RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL SOCIETY OF ELIZABETH, NJ, AND THE DOMINICAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 23, 1995

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the participants of the Third Annual Flag Raising Event being held on February 25, 1995, by the Dominican Recreational and Cultural Society. I would also like to recognize all my Dominican-American constituents who celebrate the independence of their homeland on February 27, 1995.

The Dominican Recreational and Cultural Society has dedicated itself to helping the Hispanic community. This organization serves its community well by organizing events throughout the year that emphasize the contributions of Dominican-Americans to this great Nation. It strives to bring a little of the Dominican Republic into the lives of area Hispanics.

The flag raising will not only be an opportunity to honor the Dominican Republic, but also to celebrate the life of Juan Pablo Duarte. Duarte is not only the father of this great Nation but is considered a hero throughout Latin America. A young idealist and nationalist, he provided the inspiration and courage for the Dominican independence movement. He began a resistance movement called La Trinitaria, or The Trinity, that would eventually help topple Haitian rule in the Dominican Republic.

Duarte left his beloved home in search of support from other Latin American nations. Unfortunately, Duarte fell ill while in the island of Curacao and was not able to see his homeland gain independence. However, under the leadership of Francisco del Rosario and Ramon Mella, a group of rebels launched their own uprising which succeeded on February 27, 1844.

Today, the Dominican Republic is a beautiful nation and a good neighbor to the United States. Its cultural vitality and rich heritage has contributed to the mosaic painting that is the Hispanic community. It is my honor to salute such a great nation on its Independence Day and a great organization, the Dominican Recreational and Cultural Society on this most joyous event.

ON THE REINVENTION OF GOVERNMENT

HON. CARDISS COLLINS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 23, 1995

Mrs. COLLINS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, during the past year, the American public has seen some remarkable changes in the Federal Government: It works better and costs less. Those two achievements are directly attributable to an initiative undertaken by the Clinton administration, which has been spearheaded by Vice President AL GORE. Its called the National Performance Review [NPR].

At the heart of this initiative has been the Federal employee. These employees brought their intellect, industry, and initiative to the task of reinventing Government. The result has been a smaller but more service-oriented workforce, the consolidation of programs to eliminate redundancy, cut costs, and increase efficiency. People are talking about what the Government did for them rather than what the Government did to them.

The NPR capitalized on the desire and ability of workers to eliminate waste, cut red tape, and produce a higher quality product. Teams of workers at agencies throughout the Government formed reinvention labs and began generating ideas for how to improve customer service. The labs' successes have been recognized in countless ceremonies across the Nation honoring the heroes of reinvention. Let me share a couple of examples of what they have accomplished:

First, in my own city of Chicago, the Chicago District of the U.S. Customs Service found a way to put their customers in inspection lines by airline passengers entering the United States at O'Hare International Airport. They put new informed compliance procedures in place which decreased the intrusion into the lives of the law-abiding travelers, while at the same time increasing the effectiveness of their law enforcement operation. The time spent waiting in line is down, the district now collects over \$4 million a day in duties, and the number of wanted felons apprehended has dramatically increased.

Another example from the Chicago area can be found at the North Central VA Medical Center. Last fall, the center's managed care system development group won one of the Vice President's Hammer Awards. They got it for implementing a new method of patient care which made customer satisfaction the No. 1 priority. They adopted a managed care approach based on the primary care team concept, monitored through an integrated information and accounting system. Essential support services were incorporated and those not initially available, such as surgery, were created through innovative collaborations and partnerships with external providers.

Since 1993, the number of enrollees in the Center's managed health care plan has increased fivefold and the number of acute days of hospital care per 1,000 enrollees fell 85 percent. The annual potential savings associated with these changes are estimated to exceed \$15 million.

Its clear from these examples and the others you will hear that Federal workers know how to change the Government so that it works much better. They just needed to be